

### REMARKS

The present invention relates to methods and compositions for the differentiation of human preadipocytes isolated from adipose tissue into adipocytes. The invention further relates to methods and compositions for the identification of novel polypeptides secreted from human adipocytes.

Claims 16-31 are currently pending in the application. Claim 16 has been amended herein per the Examiner's suggestion in order to more distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as their invention. Support for the amendment to claim 16 is found throughout the as-filed specification as fully set forth below. As such, no new matter has been added by way of the this amendment.

#### Amendment to claim 16

Applicants have amended claim 16 per the Examiner's suggestion in the telephone conversation dated August 31, 2004. Claim 16 has been amended to recite that the preadipocytes are plated at a density of about 25,000 to 40,000 cells/cm<sup>2</sup>. Support for the present amendment can be found throughout the specification as filed, including, but not limited to page 10, beginning at line 1, where the initial plating of preadipocytes is at a density of 25,000 to 40,000 cells/cm<sup>2</sup>.

Further, claim 16 has been amended to correct a typographical error. The spelling of glucocorticoid has been corrected by way of the present Amendment.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendment to claim 16 adds no new matter and is fully supported by the specification as filed. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested at this time.

#### Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants herewith submit a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449. It is requested that the enclosed references listed on the Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and be made of record.

Summary

Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendment to claim 16 places the currently pending claims 16-31 in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 16-31 are respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,  
**HALVORSEN ET AL.**

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(Date)

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Enclosure: Supplemental Information Disclosure